

MAC KAY • FERREIRA • FAUCHER • CROSSLEY

MARVEL 1

THE DEATH OF
**DOCTOR
STRANGE**

SPIDER-MAN

THE DOCTOR
IS **OUT!**
SO
SPIDEY
AND
BLACK CAT
ARE MAKING HIS
HOUSE CALLS!



LAND
1991

BEN REILLY has the proportional speed, strength, and agility of a SPIDER, adhesive fingertips and toes, and the unique precognitive awareness of danger called "SPIDER-SENSE"! He is a clone of PETER PARKER, and like Peter, Ben knows that with great power there must also come great responsibility. After a disastrous battle put Peter into a coma, Ben—with the backing of the BEYOND CORPORATION—took on the mantle of the crimefighting super hero called...

SPIDER-MAN

Previously...

Doctor Stephen Strange was Earth's Sorcerer Supreme, a title granted to one whose skills in the mystic arts are greater than any other being. And with that came the responsibility to preserve a magic barrier around the Earth that warded off other dimensional threats.

But now, Doctor Strange has been mysteriously murdered, and that barrier has fallen.

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SPIDER-MAN & DOCTOR STRANGE CREATED BY STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

IT WAS ALWAYS
GOING TO
BE LIKE THIS,
I GUESS.

SPIDER'S
ALWAYS BEEN A
DEAD MAN WALKING.
OR CRAWLING.
SWINGING.

HE CARES TOO MUCH ABOUT
OTHER PEOPLE. OVER AND
OVER, HE'S PUT IT ALL ON
THE LINE FOR *PERFECT
STRANGERS*. HE'D TAKE A
BULLET FOR SOMEONE EVEN
IF THEY HAD IT COMING.

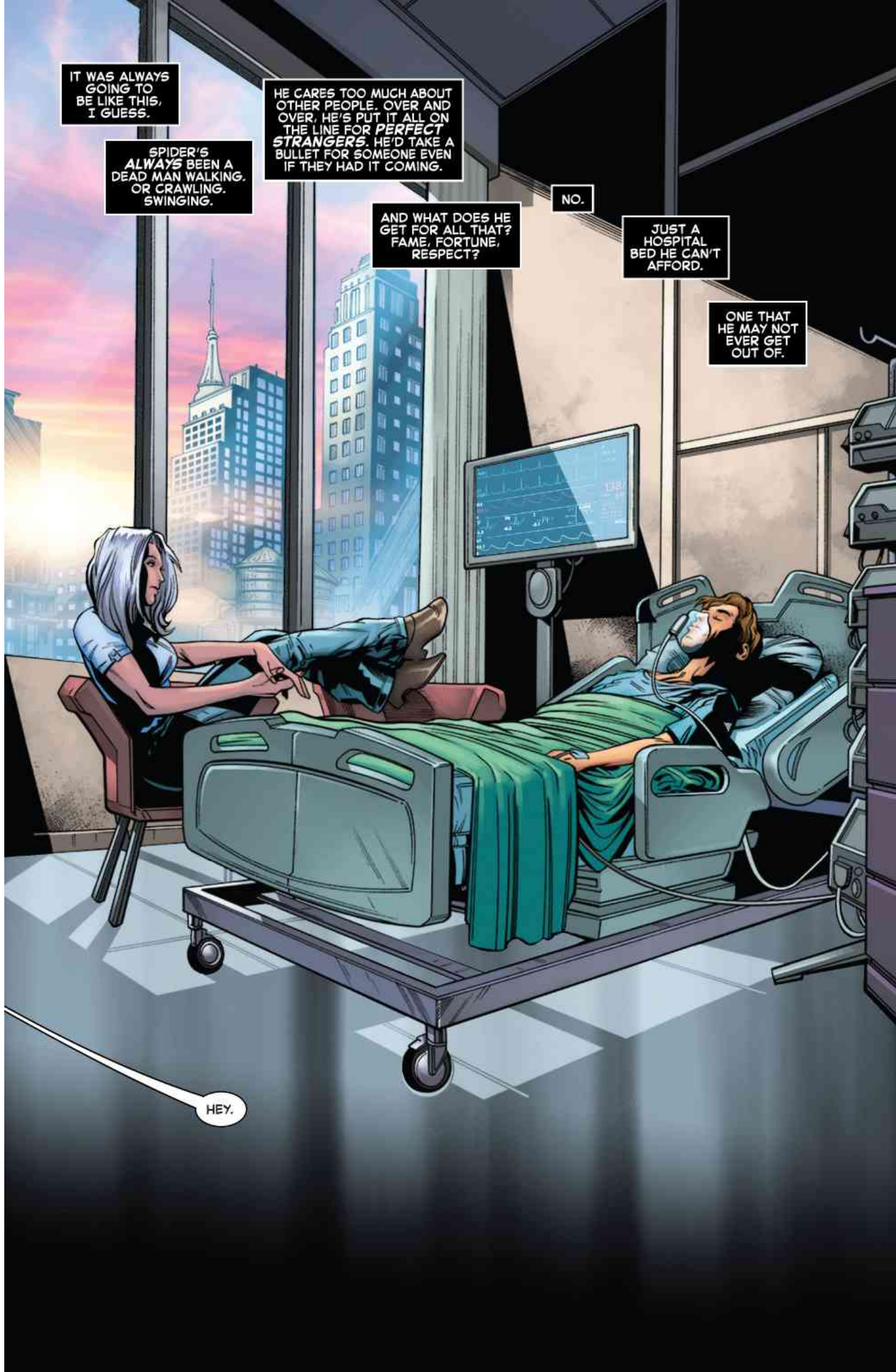
AND WHAT DOES HE
GET FOR ALL THAT?
FAME, FORTUNE,
RESPECT?

NO.

JUST A
HOSPITAL
BED HE CAN'T
AFFORD.

ONE THAT
HE MAY NOT
EVER GET
OUT OF.

HEY.





HOW IS HE?



HOW DO YOU THINK?

MOSTLY DEAD. COME BACK LATER, MAYBE HE'LL BE ALL THE WAY THERE BY THEN, AND YOU'LL GET WHAT YOU WANT.



FELICIA, THAT'S NOT FAIR.

YEAH, WELL, GOOD THING I'M NOT A **SUPER** HERO OR SOMETHING.

HE CARED ABOUT WHAT WAS FAIR OR NOT. ME?



I KNOW A THIEF WHEN I SEE ONE.



THAT'S
REAL RICH.
COMING FROM
YOU.



SURE.
BUT
WHEN I STEAL
SOMETHING...



...I DON'T
BOTHER
DRESSING
IT UP.



YOU THINK
I WANTED
THIS? YOU THINK
THIS IS MAKING
ME HAPPY?



I DON'T
KNOW, BEN.
IS IT? BECAUSE IT
LOOKS TO ME LIKE
YOU COULDN'T BE
HAPPIER AS
SPIDER-MAN!

THAT'S
NOT WHAT I
MEANT--

OH,
I KNOW
WHAT YOU
MEANT--



SPIDER-
MAN!



I APOLOGIZE
FOR THE ABRUPT
NATURE OF THIS
MISSIVE, BUT IF YOU
ARE SEEING THIS,
THEN I AM
DEAD.

WHAT?!

THIS IS BUT
ONE OF A NUMBER OF
SPELLS I HAVE PREPARED
TO ACTIVATE IN THE EVENT
OF MY DEATH TO ENSURE
THAT CERTAIN MATTERS
ARE **ADDRESSED**
IN MY ABSENCE.

PLEASE, MAKE
YOUR WAY TO MY
SANCTUM IMMEDIATELY.
I FEAR I MUST ASK
A **BOON** OF YOU,
MY FRIEND.



I AM SORRY
TO IMPOSE ON YOU
LIKE THIS, BUT KNOW
THAT I ONLY DO SO
BECAUSE I KNOW YOU
ARE THE MAN I CAN
TRUST TO DO WHAT
IS NEEDED.



A comic book page featuring Spider-Man and Doctor Strange. Spider-Man is in his red and blue suit, crouched on a rooftop. Doctor Strange is in his black and blue robe with a white cape, also on the rooftop. They are both looking at each other. In the background, there are city buildings and a large, glowing, mechanical structure. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and purple, suggesting sunset or sunrise.

...DON'T HAVE
TO COME WITH ME.
THE MESSAGE WAS
FOR SPIDER-MAN, NOT
SPIDER-MAN AND
HIS AMAZING
FRIENDS.

OH YEAH?
THEN YOU GO
ON HOME.

YOU'RE NOT
SPIDER-MAN.

I'VE
GOT EVERY
LEGAL RIGHT
TO--

"I've Got
every Legal
right"

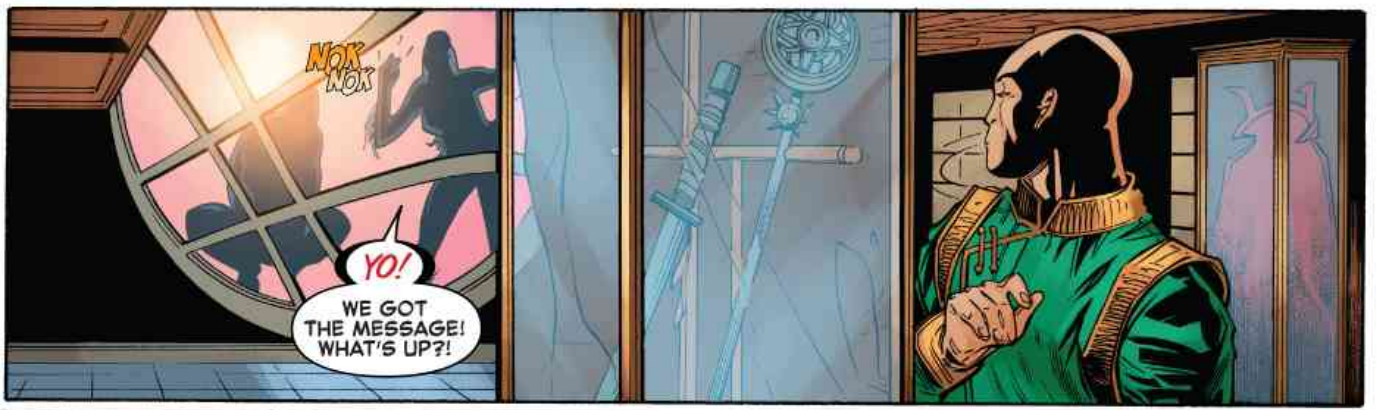
GOD,
YOU'RE
A NERD,
REILLY.

I DON'T
SOUND
LIKE THAT--

BESIDES,
I HAVE TO
SEE THIS FOR
MYSELF.

I JUST
GOT DONE
SAVING STRANGE'S
LIFE, AND NOW HE'S
GONE? I DON'T
BUY IT.

HE'S
DOCTOR
STRANGE,
COME ON.





"I DO RECALL,
MR. REILLY.

"THIS WAS A TASK
THAT STEPHEN
HAD HOPED
SPIDER-MAN
COULD HANDLE..."

"...BUT IF HE IS...
INDISPOSED...

"...THEN I WOULD
BE GRATEFUL IF
YOU WOULD TAKE
CARE OF IT."

"WHAT
IS IT?"

"TROUBLE.
OR RATHER,
POTENTIAL
TROUBLE."

"NEW YORK HAS
FAR MORE THAN
ITS FAIR SHARE OF
STRANGENESS,
MORE THAN ANYONE
KNOWS."

"THAT IS BECAUSE
DOCTOR STRANGE
HAS ALWAYS TAKEN
IT UPON HIMSELF
TO **HANDLE** THESE
THINGS. HE HAD MANY
OBLIGATIONS."



"HE BOUND ANY NUMBER
OF POTENTIAL THREATS
WITH OATH AND HEX,
AND HE MAINTAINED
THOSE OATHS AND
HEXES HIS ENTIRE LIFE."

"BUT NOW
THAT HE IS..."

"...HE IS **GONE**,
THESE MAGICAL
BINDINGS WILL
BE LOOSENING."

"THE CITY IS
IN DANGER OF
FALLING INTO
CHAOS."





SO WE'RE
LOOKING AT
A POTENTIAL
"SECOND ACT OF
GHOSTBUSTERS"
SITUATION,
HERE.



WHAT'S
IN THE
FILE?

IT'S A
LAUNDRY
LIST, IS WHAT
IT IS.



STRANGE LEFT
SPIDER-MAN--

--LEFT
US--

--A
NUMBERED LIST
OF CHORES AND
DOSSIERS ON
EACH.

YEEESH.

SO
WHERE
ARE WE
GOING?



OH?
YOU'RE WITH
ME ON THIS
NOW?

SURE.



YOU THINK
YOU CAN BE
SPIDER-
MAN?

I WANT
TO BE THERE
WHEN YOU
CRASH AND
BURN.

"FINE."

1. Ensure that the Gator Shaman has not discarded the treaties in my absence.

DOCTOR STRANGE IS DEAD!
THE WINDS OF MAGIC
SING WITH HIS
DEMISE!

FIE ON THE
TREATIES, THE
GATORS RISE
TONIGHT!

WHOOO!

ALLIGATORS
IN THE
SEWERS!

HOO
SHAMANS!

I HATE
MAGIC
STUFF!

NOW
THAT'S
SOMETHING WE
CAN AGREE
ON.





CAN YOU GRAB HIM?

THWIP!



ON IT.

I GOT INTO SPIDER-MANNING TO MIX IT UP WITH THE CULTURE, THE RHINO, REAL CLASSIC SUPER VILLAIN TYPES--

--NOT A BUNCH OF SEWAGE-COVERED DINOSAURS, DAMN!



SOKK



NO MORE DOCTOR STRANGE TO TELL US WHAT TO DO!

FINALLY, MY SCALY PRETTIES WILL MARCH DOWN BROADWAY!

GATORS ON PARADE! HAHA--
--WHOOFFF!





BACK WE GO,
LOVELIES,
BACK WE GO.

BACK WHERE
IT'S SAFE, BACK TO
THE HIDDEN BLACK
BYWAYS OF THE
UNDERWORLD...

SO? NOT
TOO BAD,
RIGHT?

YEAH, WELL...
NEXT ONE'S NOT
ALL CUDDLES AND
KISSES.

SAYS HERE
THAT WE HAVE TO
GET ACROSS TOWN,
WHERE SOMETHING
CALLED "THE HUNGRY
PRINCE OF HEARTS"
IS GOING TO TURN
UP NOW THAT
STRANGE IS
GONE.

WHAT'S
THAT SUPPOSED
TO MEAN?

SOME KIND
OF ELF OR PIXIE OR
SOMETHING. COMES
A-HUNTING FROM
FAIRYLAND.

FOR LITERAL
HEARTS. KIDS'
HEARTS.

LET'S
MOVE.

*1. Ensure that the
Gator Shaman has not
discarded the treaties
in my absence.*

2. Stop the Hungry Prince of Hearts. He will know I am gone and will resume his hunt.

WHAT?

I TOLD YOU, I HANDLED IT.

THIS IS MY TERRITORY.
THESE ARE MY PEOPLE.

MY MARK ON THE WALL MEANS THAT IF SOME FAERIE SCUM THINKS HE CAN HUNT ON MY STREETS...

...HE'S GOT ANOTHER THINK COMING.

HIS LAST ONE.



SO
STRANGE IS
DEAD?

YEAH.
LOOKS
LIKE IT.

THAT'S
TOO
BAD.

I OWED
HIM AN
APOLOGY.

I'VE DIED
A FEW TIMES
MYSELF. I DON'T
RECOMMEND
IT.



GOOD
LUCK WITH
THE REST OF
YOUR
LIST.

ALWAYS THE
CHARMER.
CASPER IS.

ISN'T HE,
THOUGH?

COME
ON. BACK
TO IT.

*2. Stop the Hungry
Prince of Hearts. He
will know I am gone and
will resume his hunt.*

4. Ensure the Spirit of Mammon remains bound in bronze.



8. Address any jiangshi attacks in Chinatown.



11. Exorcise the 666 train.





13. Feed the Central Park Dragon (she likes hot dogs).

17. There will be mummies.

20. Appease the spirits of the forgotten dead beneath James J. Walker Park.

"I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S GONE."

"WERE YOU CLOSE?"

"NO, NOT REALLY. WE MADE EACH OTHER'S LIVES DIFFICULT HERE AND THERE. I ROBBED HIM A COUPLE TIMES AND SAVED HIS LIFE ONCE."

"I WOULDN'T SAY WE WERE CLOSE."

"BUT I'LL MISS HIM. AND I FEEL BAD FOR HIS DOG."



"I FOUGHT HIM, ONE TIME."

"HE WAS DEMON-POSSESSED OR SOMETHING. IT WAS ME AND WONG AND MOON KNIGHT AND IRON FIST AND ELSA BLOODSTONE..."

"YES, I GET IT, YOU KNOW PEOPLE."



"BUT THEN HE TURNED IT AROUND, RALLIED, 'REMEMBER WHO YOU ARE!', THE WHOLE DEAL. YOU KNOW THE ONE."

"AND I WATCHED HIM BEAT THE DEVIL HALF TO DEATH."

"SCARIEST THING I'D EVER SEEN."



"GOD."

"A WORLD WITHOUT DOCTOR STRANGE."

"TELL ME ABOUT IT."



WHO **KNEW** HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR SO MUCH STUFF?

GHOSTS, DEMONS, DRAGONS, MUMMIES... IT WAS ALL **HIM**. KEEPING IT ALL IN CHECK.

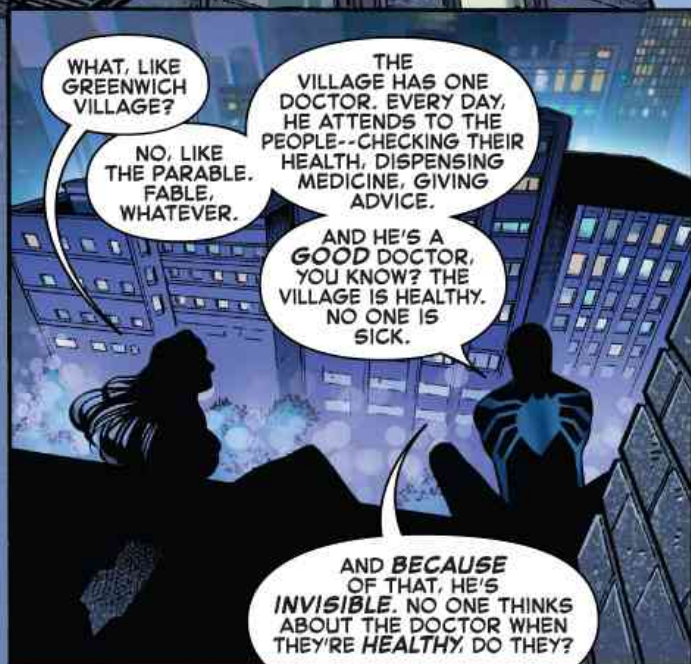
AND NO ONE **KNEW**. NO ONE **KNEW** WHAT HE DID FOR THE CITY, ALL THE TIME.



YEAH.

BECAUSE IT WAS HIS **JOB**.

HE WAS THE **VILLAGE DOCTOR**.



WHAT, LIKE GREENWICH VILLAGE?

NO, LIKE THE PARABLE. FABLE, WHATEVER.

THE VILLAGE HAS ONE DOCTOR. EVERY DAY, HE ATTENDS TO THE PEOPLE--CHECKING THEIR HEALTH, DISPENSING MEDICINE, GIVING ADVICE.

AND HE'S A **GOOD DOCTOR**, YOU KNOW? THE VILLAGE IS **HEALTHY**. NO ONE IS **SICK**.

AND **BECAUSE** OF THAT, HE'S **INVISIBLE**. NO ONE THINKS ABOUT THE DOCTOR WHEN THEY'RE **HEALTHY**, DO THEY?



SO THEY TAKE HIM FOR **GRANTED**.

NO ONE BRINGS HIM WOOD FOR HIS FIRE. NO ONE BRINGS HIM FOOD. NO ONE HELPS HIM FIX THE HOLE IN HIS ROOF.

THEY **THINK** ABOUT IT. THEY **TELL THEMSELVES** THEY'LL DO IT. THAT'S WHAT YOU DO FOR THE VILLAGE DOCTOR.

BUT THEY DON'T.

THEY
FORGET.

BECAUSE
THEY'RE **HEALTHY**.
AND WHY SHOULD
HEALTHY PEOPLE WASTE
ALL THEIR TIME ON A
DOCTOR? **SICK**
PEOPLE NEED
DOCTORS.

SO THE
DOCTOR ISN'T
EATING WELL. HE'S
COLD. HIS ROOF
IS LEAKING.

PEOPLE
DON'T SEE HIM
AFTER A WHILE, BUT
AGAIN, THEY MADE
HIM INVISIBLE. THEY
DON'T NOTICE AT
ALL. AT FIRST.

BUT EVENTUALLY,
THEY GET SICK, OR HURT
THEMSELVES, OR EAT THE
WRONG BERRY OR
WHATEVER.

AND THEN,
FOR THE FIRST TIME,
THEY REALIZE WHAT THE
DOCTOR DID FOR THEM.
EVERYTHING THE
DOCTOR DID. BUT
IT'S TOO LATE.

THAT'S A GOOD
STORY.

WHO
TOLD IT TO
YOU?

NO ONE
TOLD IT
TO ME.

PETER'S
AUNT MAY
TOLD IT TO
HIM.

LET'S
GO.

21. I am almost certain those damned goblins will be back.

UGH, GOBLINS?

YOU WANT TO BE SPIDER-MAN, REILLY?

HAHAHA!

WOOO!

BLEAGHHH!

THEN YOU BETTER GET USED TO GOBLINS.

WHUMP

KRAAAA!





UGH, YOU HORRIBLE, WEIRD THINGS.

HOW MANY OF YOU LITTLE JERKS ARE IN THERE?!



WHAT?



RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE



OH

NO.



REILLY, HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND? AGAIN?!

RELAX--





GO ON,
GET!

LITTLE RAT
JERKS.



YOU
QUITTING?
OR DO YOU GOT
ANOTHER ONE
IN YOU?

I'M
SPIDER-
MAN.

I'VE
ALWAYS GOT
ANOTHER ONE
IN ME.



THANKFULLY,
THERE'S ONLY
ONE LEFT.

BUT
IT DOESN'T
MAKE ANY
SENSE.



NO GHOSTS,
NO GHOULS,
NO DEMONS OR
MONSTERS OR
ANYTHING.

HUH.

WELL, IF
STRANGE SAID
IT WAS IMPORTANT,
THEN IT MUST BE
IMPORTANT.



THAT
REMINDS
ME.

WHO
DID YOU
LEAVE WITH
PETER?

DON'T
WORRY.



"I'VE GOT
MY BEST
GUYS ON IT."

HEY HEY
HEY-HEY!

THIS IS
THE BEST
PART.

THIS IS WHEN
ALL THE PRETTY
GIRLS SHOW UP TO
HELP ELVIS BUILD A
SPEEDBOAT SO
HE CAN WIN
THE RACE!

SCIENTIFIC
AMERICAN
FEBRUARY
EDITION



JIMENA?



WE'RE FRIENDS OF
STEPHEN'S.

HE TOLD US THAT HE SOMETIMES
RUNS INTO YOU AROUND THIS
TIME. AND THAT MOST NIGHTS,
AFTER A SHIFT, YOU SURE
COULD USE A PRETZEL.



OH,
THAT'S SO
KIND.
IS
STEPHEN ALL
RIGHT?



Y-YEAH,
HE'S FINE.
JUST HAD
BUSINESS THAT
TOOK HIM OUT
OF TOWN.



HE'S A
LOVELY MAN,
ISN'T HE?

HE
ALWAYS SEEMS
TO BE WALKING BY
JUST WHEN I'VE...
I'VE HAD A BAD
NIGHT.

AND HE ALWAYS
HAS TIME TO SIT
DOWN AND CHAT,
EVEN AT THIS HOUR.
HE'S A NIGHT OWL.
I SUPPOSE.





"A WORLD WITHOUT DOCTOR STRANGE." THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID.

YEAH, SO?

LIKE STRANGE SAID HIMSELF, ABOUT THE GATORS-- "THE WORLD WOULD BE POORER FOR HAVING ONE LESS MYSTERY IN IT."



GET TO THE POINT, REILLY. IT'S BEEN A LONG NIGHT.



WE NOW LIVE IN A WORLD WITHOUT DOCTOR STRANGE. ONE POORER FOR HAVING ONE LESS MYSTERY IN IT.

THAT'S SOMETHING WE CAN'T CHANGE.



BUT WE CAN'T LIVE IN A WORLD WITHOUT SPIDER-MAN.



YOU--

SURE. I COULD STAY THE SCARLET SPIDER.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE **SAME**, IS IT?



THE WORLD NEEDS **SPIDER-MAN**.

PETER CAN'T BE SPIDER-MAN. THE KID IN BROOKLYN, MAYBE HE'LL BE THE SPIDER-MAN SOON ENOUGH.

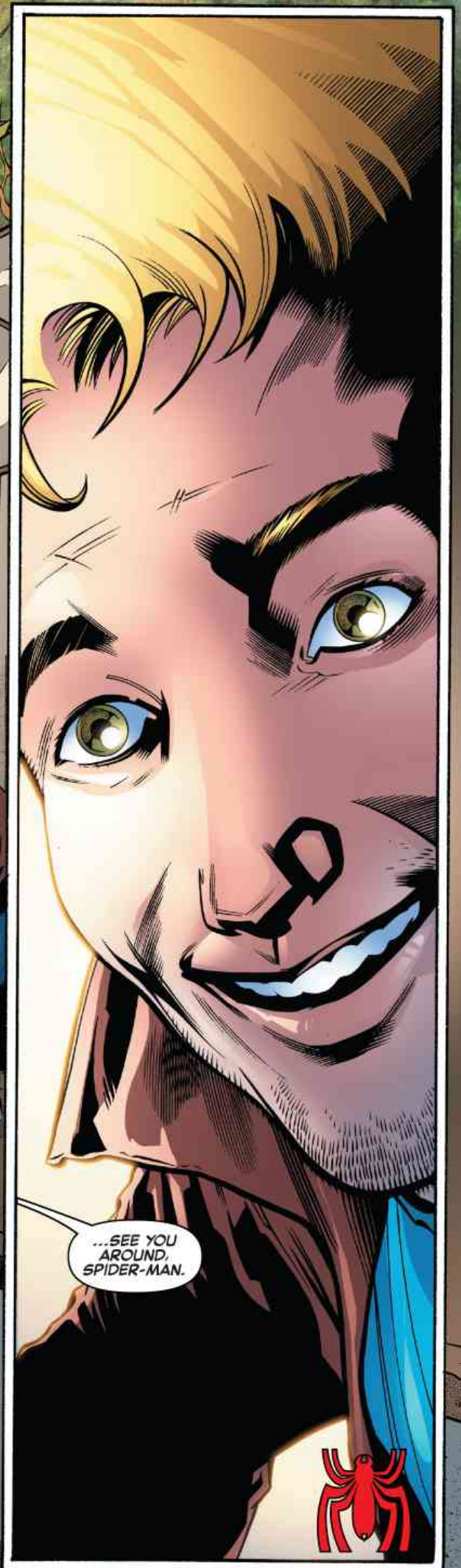
BUT RIGHT NOW... **RIGHT NOW**, I'M WHAT WE'VE GOT.





BE
READY,
REILLY.

IT WON'T
BE LONG.
BUT UNTIL
THEN...



...SEE YOU
AROUND,
SPIDER-MAN.



THE DEATH OF DOCTOR STRANGE

Checklist

~~Death of Doctor Strange #1 - ON SALE NOW~~

~~Death of Doctor Strange #2 - ON SALE NOW~~

~~Death of Doctor Strange: Avengers #1 - ON SALE NOW~~

~~Strange Academy Presents:~~

~~The Death of Doctor Strange #1 - ON SALE NOW~~

~~Death of Doctor Strange #3 - ON SALE NOW~~

~~Death of Doctor Strange: Spider-Man #1 - ON SALE NOW~~

Death of Doctor Strange: White Fox #1

Death of Doctor Strange: Blade #1

Death of Doctor Strange:
X-Men/Black Knight #1

Death of Doctor Strange #4

Death of Doctor Strange #5

NEXT:

Follow Stephen in:
Death of Doctor Strange #3



BOTH ON SALE NOW!



Follow Ben and Felicia in:
Amazing Spider-Man #79

